

thorax, the crest at the base of each elytron, the tubercle on the prosternal process, and the rather longer posterior tibiæ, &c.

Dioristus albolateralis, n. sp.

Elongatus, subparallelus, fuscus, dense brevissime ochreo-fusco pilosus; capite, thorace elytrorumque basi rugosis; elytris parce punctatis, guttis plurimis in fasciis tribus ordinatis plagaque laterali niveis.

Long. 11–15 lin.

Clothed with dense light-brown pubescence, with a slight ochreous shade in some lights. The colour is uniform above, speckled with brown below. The head is very deeply punctured, and the surface is uneven. The antennæ are brown, with the base of each of the joints (and nearly the whole of the underside) grey. The thorax is subquadrate (a little shorter than broad), subparallel, with a slight projection behind each anterior angle, and with a small lateral tubercle; very coarsely and rather closely punctured; the disk flattened, with a rugose elevation on each side, and a very small elevation a little behind the middle. The base of the elytra is rather coarsely asperate-punctate; the rest of the surface is even, with darker punctures here and there. There are numerous pure white marks, which range themselves in three interrupted arcuate bands; and the greater part of the sides is taken up with an elongate white patch.

VIII.—On the correct Generic and Specific Name of the Indian *Shámá*. By R. BOWDLER SHARPE, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c., Department of Zoology, British Museum.

IF we consult the writings of Indian ornithologists at the present day, we find this bird always spoken of as *Cercotrichas macrura* (Gm.). A few years ago it was called by Jerdon and other writers *Kittocinclá* or *Cittocinclá macrura*, while *Cercotrichas* was employed for the generic name of the Red-winged Chat-Thrush of Africa (*C. erythroptera*).

The genus *Cercotrichas* was proposed by Boie in the 'Isis' for 1831 (p. 542); and the following species were included in it:—

Turdus phœnicopterus, Temm.

— *erythropterus*.

— *macrurus*, Lath.

— *tricolor*, Vieill.

Saxicola leucocampter, Mus. Berol.

Of these birds *Turdus tricolor* and *T. macrurus* are both *Shámás*, and have been spoken of as one and the same species.

Turdus phænicopterus is not a Thrush, but a Cuckoo-Shrike, *Campophaga phænicea* (Lath.). It appears never to have been made the type of any absolute genus. *Turdus macrurus*, Lath., was taken by Gould (P. Z. S. 1836, p. 7) as the type of his genus *Kittacincla*; and *T. tricolor*, V., has always been considered to be a synonym.

What *Saxicola leucocampter* of the Berlin Museum is I have not yet been able to find out.

It appears to me to be certain that, Gould having taken *Turdus macrurus* out of Boie's composite genus *Cercotrichas*, and having made it in due form the type of his genus *Kittacincla*, it is quite wrong to employ *Cercotrichas* for the *Shámá*.

With varying fortunes the generic name of *Cercotrichas* was employed until 1870, when its fate appears to me to have been definitely settled by Drs. Finsch and Hartlaub, who made Gmelin's *Turdus erythropterus* the type of their genus *Cercotrichas*, of which they gave full characters, founding, indeed, the genus *de novo*, and adopting Boie's name; so that the synonymy of the genus would stand

Cercotrichas, F. & H.

Cercotrichas, pt., Boie, Isis, 1831, p. 542 (typo haud indicato).

Cercotrichas, Finsch & Hartl. Vög. Ost-Afr. p. 249 (1870). Type *C. erythropterus* (Gm.).

Saxicola leucocampter is probably *Tham nolæa albiscapulata* or *Th. cinnamomeiventris*, in which case it would be absorbed in 1850 into Cabanis's genus *Tham nolæa*, while no one since Boie's time has associated *Turdus phænicopterus*, Temm., with the Chat-Thrushes.

The synonymy of the genus *Cittocincl a* will be as follows:—

Cittocincl a, Gould.

Cercotrichas, pt., Boie, Isis, 1831, p. 542 (typo haud indicato).

Kittacincla, Gould, P. Z. S. 1836, p. 7. Type *C. tricolor*.

Cittocincl a, Selater, Ibis, 1866, p. 109 (nom. emend.).

I do not think that the name *macrura* can be upheld for the Indian species of this genus. There are two closely allied birds, one of which is found in Southern and Central India and Ceylon, the sub-Himalayan region eastwards from the Ganges, ranging through the Burmese countries to Siam, Cochin China, and Hainan, and down the Malayan peninsula to Java. In Sumatra the *Shámá* differs in having much less black at the base of the outer tail-feather, while in Borneo

there is usually no black at all at the base of these feathers, the outer tail-feather being entirely white. In some examples, however, there is a little black at the base of this outer tail-feather; and hence I can only look upon the Bornean bird as a race of the Indian one. It has been named *C. suavis* by Dr. Sclater.

Now the name *Turdus macrurus* of Gmelin (S. N. i. p. 820) is founded on the "Long-tailed Thrush" of Latham (Gen. Syn. ii. part i. p. 72, pl. xxxix.), which is said to have come from the Island of Pulo-Condore, off the coast of Siam. The species from this island will doubtless prove to be the same as the Siamese and Burmese birds; but, as figured and described by Latham, it agrees with *C. suavis* of Borneo. If, therefore, it turns out to be specifically identical with the latter, the name of *macrura* must take precedence of Dr. Sclater's name *suavis*. At all events, in the face of the uncertainty that exists it seems better to speak of the ordinary Indian bird as *Cittocincla tricolor* (Vieill.), founded on Levaillant's plate cxviii. in the 'Oiseaux d'Afrique,' where a very fair figure of the species is given; and considering that there is a bird in existence which has a white outer tail-feather, as figured by Latham, his "Long-tailed Thrush" ought not to be referred, in any case, to the common Shámá of India and Burmah.

IX.—Notes on the Trochamminæ of the Lower Malm of the Canton Aargau (Switzerland). By Dr. RUDOLF HÆUSLER, F.G.S. &c.

[Plates III. & IV.]

THE zone of *Ammonites transversarius* (= Birmenstorfer Schichten = Étage Argovien I.) is represented in the Jura of the Canton Aargau by alternating layers of greyish more or less compact limestones and softer marls of the same colour, which overlie the ferruginous marls of the Upper Dogger (Callovian), and are covered by the clayey marls of the Middle Argovian étage (zone of *Terebratula impressa*). Their lithological character is nearly the same throughout the canton; but their fauna and flora change considerably towards the upper limit; and though it is quite impossible to subdivide this complex of strata into distinct subzones, yet, chiefly for microscopical researches, it is convenient to adopt three different horizons, which in the course of this paper I shall call A, B, C.